

C A M P A I G N F O R
ACCOUNTABILITY

July 17, 2018

By Email: mhighla@dhs.state.ia.us

Matt Highland
Iowa Department of Human Services
Hoover State Office Building
1305 East Walnut Street
Des Moines, Iowa 50319

Re: Open Records Request

Dear Mr. Highland:

Campaign for Accountability (“CfA”) makes this request for records, regardless of format, medium, or physical characteristics, and including electronic records and information, audiotapes, videotapes, and photographs, pursuant to the Iowa Examination of Public Records Law, Iowa Code § 22-1 et seq.

Specifically, CfA seeks copies of a report, if such report exists, prepared by the Department of Human Services (“DHS”) to assess the progress of the Iowa Family Planning Program from July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018. If such report does not exist, please provide a status update as to when you anticipate such report being available.

By way of background, the Iowa Family Planning Program (FPP) was created by the Iowa State Legislature to replace the Medicaid program, Iowa Family Planning Network, which allowed participation by providers that also provide abortions.¹ In January 2018, the Department of Human Services prepared a report showing enrollment numbers had dropped by nearly 50 percent.² Since the initial progress report, enrollment in the FPP has continued to decline.³ The inaugural year of the FPP ended on June 30, 2018.⁴

Where possible, please produce records electronically. CfA seeks records of any kind, including electronic records, audiotapes, videotapes, and photographs. This request includes any letters, emails, facsimiles, telephone messages, voice mail messages, and transcripts, notes, or minutes

¹ Barbara Rodriguez, Data show drop in Iowa family planning program enrollment after Planned Parenthood’s exclusion, *Des Moines Register*, Jan. 31, 2018, available at <https://www.desmoinesregister.com/story/news/health/2018/01/31/data-show-drop-iowa-family-planning-program-enrollment-after-planned-parenthoods-exclusion/1083384001/>.

² *Id.*

³ Barbara Rodriguez, Enrollment down in Iowa family planning program, *Des Moines Register*, May 3, 2018, available at <https://www.desmoinesregister.com/story/news/2018/05/03/enrollment-down-iowa-family-planning-program-planned-parenthood-medicare-gop-legislature-abortion/578080002/>.

⁴ *Id.*

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of any meetings, telephone conversations, or discussions. This request also includes any attachments to these records.

If it is your position that any portion of the requested records is exempt from disclosure pursuant to Iowa Code § 22.7, please state the basis of the exemption. Please explain in writing and with particularity the reasons for any determination that a record is exempt from disclosure.

In the event that a portion of a requested record is properly exempt from disclosure, please redact that portion and produce the remainder of the requested record. If you deny this request in whole or in part, please specify each exemption on which you are relying to withhold information.

CfA is a non-profit organization and seeks the requested information to inform and educate the public about the state's oversight responsibilities regarding public funding for private organizations. Accordingly, because CfA seeks the information to benefit the general public, we request that the information be provided without charge. Iowa Code § 22.3. If a fee waiver is not available, please inform me if the cost will exceed \$200.

Please promptly produce the requested records. If, however, production cannot occur within 10 business days, please inform me when the records will be available. Iowa Code § 22.8(4)(d). If you are unable to meet this statutorily required time period or foresee any problems in releasing the requested records in whole or in part, please contact me at 202-780-5750.

Finally, I welcome the opportunity to discuss with you whether and to what extent this request can be narrowed or modified to better enable the Department of Human Services to process it. If possible, please email the records to me at dstevens@campaignforaccountability.org. If the records are mailed, please send them to: Campaign for Accountability, 611 Pennsylvania Ave S.E., #337, Washington, D.C. 20003.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Dan E Stevens", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Daniel Stevens
Campaign for Accountability